

in the places he fought for or improved during his career. His work touched innumerable lives, and he is a model for all those who recreate in California.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND
JESSE L. JACKSON

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 24, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. for his lifelong commitment to the betterment of society. His contributions to our community are worthy of commendation.

As an undergraduate, Rev. Jackson became involved in the civil rights movement. In 1965, he went to Selma, Alabama to march with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and became a worker in King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference. On April 4, 1968, Jackson was in Memphis, Tennessee when the civil rights leader was assassinated and has been committed to furthering Dr. King's mission ever since. Today, Rev. Jackson has established his own legacy and continues to be one of America's foremost civil rights, religious, and political figures. He is a passionate activist committed to making the world a better place and has been hailed by many for his work in human and civil rights and non-violent social change. Rev. Jackson has received over forty honorary doctorate degrees and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Bill Clinton in 2000, to name a few of his numerous accolades.

In 1971, Rev. Jackson founded Operation PUSH and later established the National Rainbow Coalition. In 1996, the two organizations merged to form Rainbow PUSH, a nonprofit organization dedicated to pursuing social justice, civil rights, and political activism. Over twenty years later, Rainbow PUSH continues to be a multi-racial, multi-issue, and progressive international organization committed to fighting for social change. With a mission to protect, defend, and gain civil rights by promoting economic and educational equality, Rainbow PUSH is a critical resource. The organization uplifts our community's most vulnerable, helping to employ the unemployed, educate children, provide healthcare, and promote peace and justice around the globe.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. His lifetime of dedicated service has made our world a better place and furthers the great legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Like Dr. King, Rev. Jesse Jackson continues to inspire others to work toward freedom, social justice and equality.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. KEVIN
CHRISTENSEN

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 24, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Kevin Christensen who is retiring from an extensive, noteworthy

career in public service. As the Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation in the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Kevin oversaw a plethora of projects and managed a sizable, dedicated team that ensured that public funds were judiciously and efficiently employed.

Kevin graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University with degrees in biology and chemistry. Soon after, Kevin chose to serve his country as a U.S. Navy officer of which he devoted nine honorable years. Even after his service, Kevin dedicated more of his time working as a manager for the Naval Audit Service where he artfully juggled a multitude of assignments that ensured that our Navy was handling its programs effectively. However, Kevin could not stop there, he joined the EPA in 2008 where he provided his technical expertise and leveraged his skills in management and oversight. While at the EPA, Kevin's hard work earned him a top leadership position as the Deputy Assistant Inspector General, then later to his current position as Assistant Inspector General.

Kevin's remarkable career is worthy of distinction and his retirement from the EPA is both a solemn, yet joyful moment. His passion for both public service and the environment, highlights the vibrant culture at the EPA.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Mr. Christensen on a job well done. On behalf of America's First District, we say thank you.

HONORING ERICA GEE-BRADLEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 24, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker and fellow colleagues I rise today to honor a worthy member of our society, Dr. Erica Gee-Bradley.

Dr. Gee-Bradley brings over 25 years of experience working in the Jackson Public School District. She has served generations of scholars and parents in the capacity of a classroom teacher, Assistant Principal, and Principal. After 13 years of dedicated leaderships and principal of Galloway Elementary School, she proudly accepted the invitation to leap into secondary leadership at the high school level. Dr. Gee-Bradley currently serves as Assistant Principal and 9th Grade Academy Instructional Administrator at Provine High School.

Dr. Bradley received her Doctor of Philosophy in Education Administration and Supervision from Jackson State University. She received her Master of Science in Education Administration and Supervision from Jackson State University.

Dr. Gee-Bradley graduated with honors from Tougaloo College with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Erica Gee-Bradley.

LUNAR NEW YEAR 2020

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 24, 2020

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the cultural and historical significance of Lunar New Year in 2020, the Year of the Rat.

As you may know, Asian Americans are the fastest growing ethnic group in the United States. With the continued expansion of Asian diaspora, Lunar New Year is now observed by millions of Asian Americans and by many non-Asian Americans in the United States. This tradition that began in China more than 4,000 years ago, is now widely celebrated across the world.

Lunar New Year, often referred to as Spring Festival in various Asian countries, is celebrated with family reunions, community activities and cultural performances. This is traditionally a time to wish upon others good fortune, health, prosperity, and happiness. Beginning on the second new moon following the winter solstice, or the first day of the new year according to the lunisolar calendar, Lunar New Year extends into the full moon 15 days later. According to the lunisolar calendar, the 15th day of the new year is called the Lantern Festival. This year, Lunar New Year officially begins on January 25th.

Lunar New Year is a special time for families to come together and celebrate the occasion, which is why, when I was a state legislator, I proposed making Lunar New Year a New York City school holiday. I later worked with the mayor and successfully established Lunar New Year as an official school holiday for all public schools in the city, and this year marks the fifth anniversary of this tradition. Students, including my two boys, are now able to fully celebrate with their families on Lunar New Year without facing any consequences for missing school should the holiday fall on a school day. This designation recognizes and appreciates the important immigrant story of AAPs.

Additionally, as the first Asian American elected to Congress from New York, I am proud to introduce today a resolution to recognize the significance of this holiday. I am also grateful to the 68 Representatives who are joining me in introducing this resolution to recognize the cultural and historical significance of the holiday in 2020.

Madam Speaker, I believe Lunar New Year is not only about recognizing the many contributions the Asian American community has made, and continues to make, but it is about honoring and acknowledging that our nation's strength lies in its diversity. Happy Lunar New Year to everyone celebrating in my district in Queens and across the United States.

CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE
AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1158 ON DE-
CEMBER 17, 2019

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 24, 2020

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, when the Committee on Rules filed its report (H.